



16<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME  
YEAR A

23 July 2023

LITURGY AND BULLETIN

### OPENING PRAYER

*Lord, be merciful to your people.*

*Fill us with your gifts and make us always eager to serve you in faith, hope and love.*

*Amen.*

**FIRST READING:** A reading from the book of Wisdom

There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything,  
to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly.  
Your justice has its source in strength,  
your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all.  
You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned  
and you expose the insolence of those who know it;  
but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement,  
you govern us with great lenience,  
for you have only to will, and your power is there.  
By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people  
how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men,  
and you have given your sons the good hope  
that after sin you will grant repentance.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

**Response: Lord, you are good and forgiving.**

1. O Lord, you are good and forgiving,  
full of love to all who call.  
Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer  
and attend to the sound of my voice. (R.)

2. All the nations shall come to adore you  
and glorify your name, O Lord:  
for you are great and do marvellous deeds,  
you who alone are God. (R.)

3. But you, God of mercy and compassion,  
slow to anger, O Lord,  
abounding in love and truth,  
turn and take pity on me. (R.)

**SECOND READING:** A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and

God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;  
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia!

**GOSPEL:** A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 13:24-30

Jesus put a parable before the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this" he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn."



### **REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA**

Today we hear how the Spirit of God dwells in all of us, helping us in our weakness. The first disciples had Jesus to explain the parables; we have the Spirit to enlighten us. It is the Spirit who helps us to interpret the teaching of Jesus and to be receptive to the challenges that they pose.

The presence of sinners in the kingdom of God is often a stumbling block to good people. There will be a time for separation and judgment, but the time is not now. This means that the righteous will have to live with the sinner and, even more challengingly, show them the same kind of concern that they show to others. The presence of sinners does not necessarily erode the quality of the kingdom. Rather, it provides disciples an opportunity to rise to the occasion of generosity and forgiveness.

The power of God is demonstrated not in retribution but in mercy. God is said to be 'merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in kindness and fidelity', and repentance is a very real possibility. This is the image that gives us hope.

### **PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL**

We pray for all who sow seeds of mercy and peace in troubled places. May their faith in God's new world yield a rich harvest of hope. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for world leaders. May they adhere to treaties banning the use of unjust armaments that kill and maim innocent civilians. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the whole human family. May the world's hottest day call us all to join forces to deal with the crisis of global warming. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the people of Sudan. May the civil war causing untold misery for them come to a merciful end. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the people of Australia. May the whole country reflect deeply and respectfully on the proposed First Nations Voice and discern what is best for all. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray today for grandparents and the elderly. May our love and care for them show that 'God's mercy is from age to age'. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

We pray for all who suffer in mind, body, or spirit, especially Penny Crawford, Jenny Bodman, Ross Lawless, Rongo Tee Peeti, Helen Montgomery, Judy Nielson, Tony Riley, Val Biggers and all who need our prayers, that they may be cared for by loving family, friends and community. (Pause) Lord, hear us

We pray for the recently deceased, Joan Daniel and Judy Bevege . . . and for those whose anniversary of death occurs around this time. May the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven be fully revealed to them. (Pause) Lord, hear us.

### CONCLUDING PRAYER

*Father,*

*may your gifts give us new purpose and bring us to a new life in you.*

*Amen.*

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**SCHOOL PRINCIPAL: Marylou Gorham Ph. 4842 2413**

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Mondays: 9am – 3pm; Fridays: 9am – 12pm**

**Weekday Mass: Tuesdays at 10am**

**Meditation: Thursdays in Presbytery at 10.30am**

**Social Justice Group: Wednesday 2 August 2023 at 9.30am, at the Presbytery**

**Krawarree Mass: Sunday 30th July at 11am. Lunch afterwards in the hall.**

**Araluen Mass: Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> August (Mary McKillop's Feast Day) at 11am. We are currently working on where to have lunch as the pub is closed on a Tuesday.**

**Nerriga Mass: Sunday 20 August at 11am. Lunch afterwards at the pub.**

**The third World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, which will be celebrated on July 23, 2023, will have the theme, "His mercy is from age to age" (Lk 1: 50).** This verse reminds us that God's mercy is manifested in history through the testimonies of those who have experienced it and passed it on to their children and grandchildren. Grandparents and the elderly are called to carry this mercy, to tell through words and life how God has been faithful to His promises and how He continues to love His people. They are also called to receive God's mercy, and to allow themselves to be comforted by His fatherly love that never abandons them. The World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly is an occasion to once again express with joy that the Church wants to celebrate together with those whom the Lord -- as the Bible says -- has given "a full life".

**Markets in Ryrie Park: 9am - 1pm Saturday 22 July** Produce; Crafts; Plants; Antiques & Collectibles; Trash & Treasure; Monthly wood Raffle. Donations of cooking etc gratefully accepted at the Parish table.

Enquiries to Cathy Ffrench on 0418 262 011



**A date has been set to farewell Brother Brian. Sunday 17th Sept, 2-4pm** at the Club for afternoon tea This will be a self catered event. We are all sorry that Brian is leaving us as he has become such a loved member of our parish family. Please mark this date in your diaries.

**We have some old china and glassware** in a cupboard in the Presbytery that hasn't been used in over 20 years. If any parishioner would like to have some, please contact Helen on 0430169849 to check it out. Anything not taken will be sold on our market stall in the coming months.

**Dell:** Vinnies also have a used (very little) Dell multi-function printer that needs a home. Anyone interested please contact Helen on her mobile.

**The Catholic Parish of Pambula** invites members of our community to join with Archbishop Christopher Prowse and other pilgrims, as he leads the annual St. Mary of the Cross McKillop pilgrimage to Eden on Saturday 19th August. He will be leaving from St Christopher's Cathedral at 7.30am on Saturday 19th August and travel to Eden by private vehicle.

As they are organising lunch, it would be appreciated if you could advise if you are attending so catering can be arranged, please book in via our website [Catholic Parish Pambula](#) or on the following link [Archbishop's Mary MacKillop Pilgrimage](#)  
If there are any special dietary requirements, please make these known to us. You can contact either Sue Heffernan (0405 251 947) or myself (0429 774 119)

**Readings for Mass:** 1<sup>st</sup>: Wisdom 12:13,16-19. Romans 8:26-27. Gospel: Matthew 13:24-30.

**Next week:** 1<sup>st</sup>: 1 Kings 3:5,7-12. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Romans 8:28-30. Gospel Matthew 13:44-52

**Radio Church:** Sundays at 6pm on FM 88.9

<b>Ministries for our Mass:</b>	<b>22 July</b>	<b>29 July</b>	<b>29 July</b>	<b>5 August</b>
Welcomer:	Geraldine	Cathy F	Helen P	Geraldine
Acolyte:	Felix (when available)			
Reader 1:	Michael	Bobbie	Wendy M-B	Ann T
Reader 2:	Cathy F	Tommy	Germaine	Wendy H
<b>Ministries of service:</b>	<b>21 July</b>	<b>28 July</b>	<b>4 August</b>	<b>11 Aug</b>
Altar Decorating:	Cathy F	Margaret	Joy	Helen P
Cleaning:	Helen P & Sarah			Bunny & Ella
Counters: 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday:	Pauline & Bobbie.		2 <sup>nd</sup> : Sunday: Wendy H	
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday: volunteer please		4 <sup>th</sup> : Phil Owen	
Please advise if you are unable to fulfil your roster, so alternative arrangements may be made.				

Keep warm and take care of each other,  
Helen

The Parish of St Bede's Braidwood acknowledges the Yuin people, the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for many thousands of years. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and future.